

FCC Docket 05-72

I would like to respectfully file AGAINST the transfer of the Rainbow 1 satellite and the associated 61.5 transponder frequencies from Rainbow DBS Company LLC to Echostar Satellite LLC.

The FCC has long stood for competition in the direct to home broadcast industry, and there are currently three companies providing service. Granting this transfer will reduce the options from three to two.

Our family has had service from Dishnetwork (Echostar) for about 6 or 7 years now, since they have been our best choice for the television channels we watch. However, last week we had the VOOM service installed as a replacement. From its one satellite, VOOM has provided more channels that we want to watch than any of the other three options (Comcast Cable, Directv and Dishnetwork) available to us. In particular, we are very happy with the significant number of high definition channels VOOM is providing, which none of the other services is planning to match in the near future. The addition by VOOM of additional favorite standard definition channels in the last several weeks made it a viable option for us as a total service.

Dishnetwork currently has nine satellites in orbit broadcasting from at least six orbital locations to the continental United States, and Directv has six satellites broadcasting from at least three orbital locations (as per their web sites), with more satellites scheduled for launch in the near future. Both services use the majority of their bandwidth to supply hundreds upon hundreds of almost identical channels – the local feeds of the major networks which differ mostly (in prime time) in a few local commercials. With all the bandwidth and transponders which have been given to these companies by the FCC, there should be room to allow a small company with a different content (high definition) a place in the marketplace.

I can receive my local channels over the air in high definition (which Dishnetwork and Directv don't currently provide). With their recent additions, I believe that VOOM is now a viable option for many more people such as myself. With their recent additions, I believe that there is a place for them in the marketplace, not only for high definition television owners, but for those with standard definition televisions who are considering upgrading to high definition in a few years.

I would again urge you to vote against the transfer, and allow VOOM more time to establish itself in the marketplace.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

Wayne D. Sabin